2026 TOWN ELECTIONS

Brian A. Vernaglia - Precinct 4

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COURTESY PHOTO/BRIAN VERNAGLIA

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What experiences and perspectives would you contribute to Town Meeting?

I grew up in town, attended Winchester Public Schools, and returned to raise my family here while completing my Ph.D. I have spent the last fifteen years in local government, serving on numerous different elected and appointed boards. I have served the school community in the PTOs, school councils, and on the School Committee. Additionally I helped steward our finances as member of the Finance Committee for eight years. I currently serve as the Chair of the Planning Board and Vice Chair of the Capital Planning Committee. I strive to stay informed on all the issues facing Winchester residents.

What are two or three issues facing Winchester that you think are most important and what are your positions on them?

1. Financial stability for our town and our schools. We need to acknowledge that Proposition 2.5 is not sustainable, especially during highly inflationary periods. This means that operating overrides are necessary from time to time to bridge the gap and maintain the level of services that our residents deserve. We face such a period now, and I support a "right-sized" override that will allow our town avoid cuts while being mindful of those in town who would be most impacted.

2. Encouraging smart growth. As a member of the Planning Board, I have seen firsthand the need to encourage commercial and residential growth, and also increase our much needed tax base. Streamlining our zoning bylaw to remove unneeded bureaucracy while maintaining guardrails is crucial. Town Meeting is the body that must approve any zoning bylaw amendments I look forward to being part of those solutions.

3. Maintaining our aging capital assets. The town has identified over eighty million dollars in capital needs over the next five years, most notably essential renovations to our town hall, but only anticipates thirty dollars in available funding. As a member of the Capital Planning

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Committee, every year I see needed repairs that must be deferred leading to even more costly fixes in the future. Any override presented to residents must include funding for capital projects so that we can try to catchup with the backlog of critical infrastructure repairs.

What is a special challenge in your precinct that might not be faced in other precincts?
Precinct 4 is split in half. West side residents send their children to Ambrose while those on the east send their children to Lincoln. Between us is Main Street and the Symmes Corner Rotary. The chaotic nature of this rotary impacts precinct 4 residents more than most in town. The town is in the process of designing improvements to this location, and will need additional funding in order to unlock millions of dollars of state funding. I support this project to prioritize safety for our town and to help unify Precinct 4.

Why should voters elect you to represent them?
As outlined above, I have been an active member of our community my whole life, and I am committed to improving the quality of life for our neighbors. I take my role very seriously and I have never missed a session of Town Meeting, always engaging with thorough and careful preparation. I am always available to hear your concerns, and I humbly ask for your vote to continue this work.

–

Return to Town Meeting Candidate list.

Related

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NEWS

Winchester Town Clerk: Early voting begins March 14

The following was submitted by the Winchester Town Clerk's Office: Did you know that you can cast a vote early for the upcoming Annual Town Election? Election laws were amended years ago and allow for voters to cast ballots several ways. The world is a busy place with family,

March 2, 2026

NEWS

Winchester seeks poll workers for 2026 election season

The Town Clerk's Office is seeking workers for the upcoming 2026 election season to assist staff with election administration. Officials cited changes in many election laws in the recent Voter Act of 2022 as a reason for the variety of available positions. The town is looking for serious applicants

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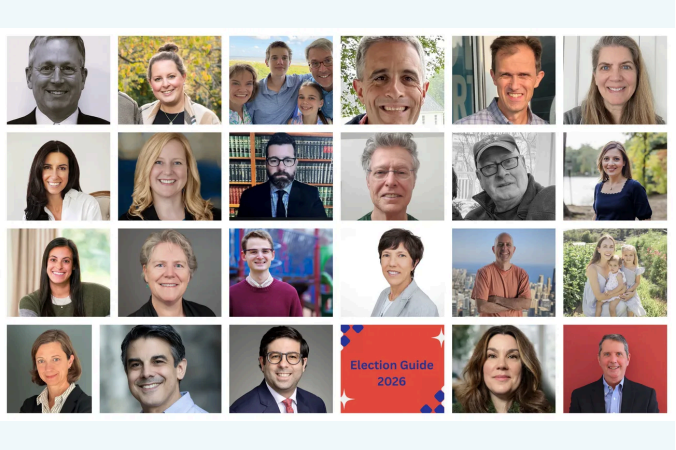
NEWS

Winchester Planning Board candidates debate housing growth and historic preservation

Three candidates for two open seats on the Winchester Planning Board debated housing production, zoning reform and growth Feb. 26 at a forum sponsored by the League of



GOVERNMENT

Candidate profiles now available in 2026 election guide

Candidate profiles for both the town wide and Town Meeting member races are now live in the Winchester New
Women Voters of Winchest
Guide. While the deadline for submission

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Women Voters of Winchester. Incumbents Nicholas Rossettos and Keri Layton were joined by challenger Amy Beliveau at the Jenks Center, moderated by

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was Feb. 24, if a candidate has not turned in their profile and/or headshot, they may

WINCHESTER NEWS

February 25, 2026

Latest

FEATURES

‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. Set in the 1920s, this iconic production is sure to leave the audience wanting more. Performances will

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

March 4, 2026

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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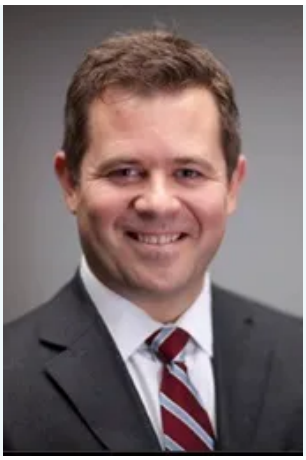

NEWS

Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

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NEWS

Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

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